

REMARKS

Claims 1-15 constitute all currently pending claims in the application.

I. Objections to the Drawings

The Examiner objects to Figs. 1, 4a, 5, 7a, 8, 10a, 11a, 11b, and 11c, for their alleged failure to provide descriptive labels and identification. Applicant submits that under 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.84(o) and (n), English descriptive phrases are not generally required as labels. Short descriptive identifiers, e.g., “Ve1,” “Ve2,” and “Ve3” for vectors, are generally accepted as descriptive labels.

Regarding the complexity of the drawings, Applicant merely submits that due to the complexity of certain of the cited figures, more descriptive labels would either be difficult to read, or impossible to fit within the confines of the figures. Furthermore, as a common naming scheme is employed for the labels, understanding of the figures is enhanced by maintaining consistency between the labels of all figures.

Although the Examiner contends that the labels used in the cited figures are not universally recognized, all labels of the figures are clearly described in the specification. Thus, no further labels are “necessary for understanding of the drawing.” Applicant respectfully submits, therefore, that there is no necessity for the Examiner to require more detailed descriptive legend.

Thus, Applicant submits that these diagrams are most easily understood when labeled as currently shown. Accordingly, Applicant respectfully requests that the Examiner withdraw the objections to the drawings.

II. Claim Rejections Under 35 U.S.C. § 101

Claims 1-8 and 10-15 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 101 as allegedly being directed to non-statutory subject matter. Applicant traverses this rejection for at least the following reasons.

Claim 1 requires “recording said rotation angle.” As later use is clearly facilitated by recording the rotation angle, Applicant submits that claim 1 clearly teaches a concrete and tangible result at least in the recorded rotation angle. Accordingly, Applicant respectfully requests that the Examiner withdraw the rejection of independent claim 1 and its dependent claims 2-8 and 10-15.

III. Claim Rejections Under 35 U.S.C. § 102

Claims 1, 2, 6-10, 14, and 15 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(a) as allegedly being anticipated by U.S. Patent Application Publication No. 2002/0161535 to Kawakita et al. (“Kawakita”). Applicant traverses this rejection for at least the following reasons.

Claims 1 and 9 are amended to require “vectors tangent to the wire harness.” Applicant respectfully submits that although Figs. 10 and 15 of Kawakita appear to show a number of nodes along the wire harness, they fail to show the use of “node vectors” in relation to the nodes of the wire harness, as required by claim 1, nor do they show “vectors tangent to the wire harness,” as claimed.

Thus, Kawakita fails to teach each and every element of amended claims 1 and 9, and therefore fails to anticipate these claims. Accordingly, Applicant respectfully requests that the Examiner withdraw the rejection of independent claims 1 and 9, and their dependent claims 2, 6-8, 10, 14, and 15.

IV. Conclusion

In view of the above, reconsideration and allowance of this application are now believed to be in order, and such actions are hereby solicited. If any points remain in issue which the Examiner feels may be best resolved through a personal or telephone interview, the Examiner is kindly requested to contact the undersigned at the telephone number listed below.

AMENDMENT UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.114(c)
U.S. Application No.: 10/566,571

Attorney Docket No.: Q92871

This Application is being filed via the USPTO Electronic Filing System (EFS).

Applicants herewith petition the Director of the USPTO to extend the time for reply to the above-identified Office Action for an appropriate length of time if necessary. Any fee due under 37 U.S.C. § 1.17(a) is being paid via the USPTO Electronic Filing System (EFS). The USPTO is also directed and authorized to charge all required fees, except for the Issue Fee and the Publication Fee, to Deposit Account No. 19-4880. Please also credit any overpayments to said Deposit Account.

Respectfully submitted,

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